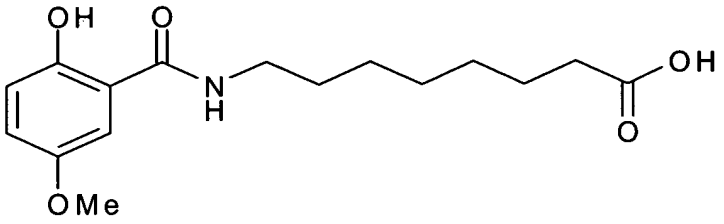
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A compound having the formula ~~selected from the group consisting of compounds~~:



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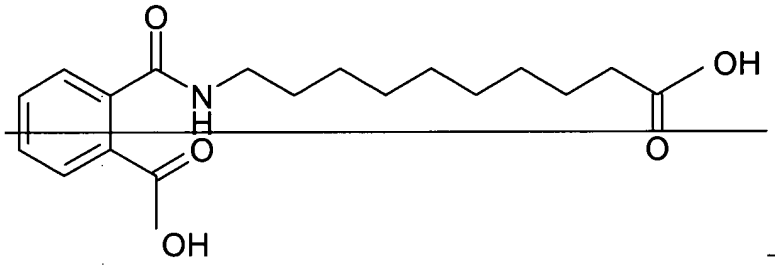

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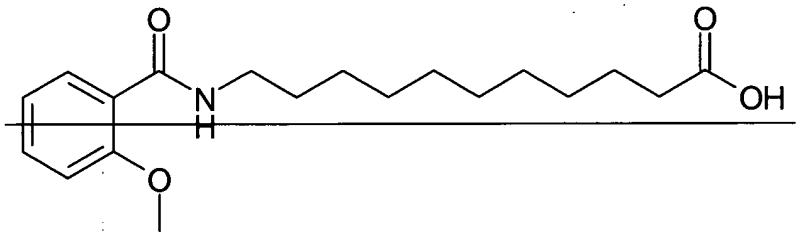

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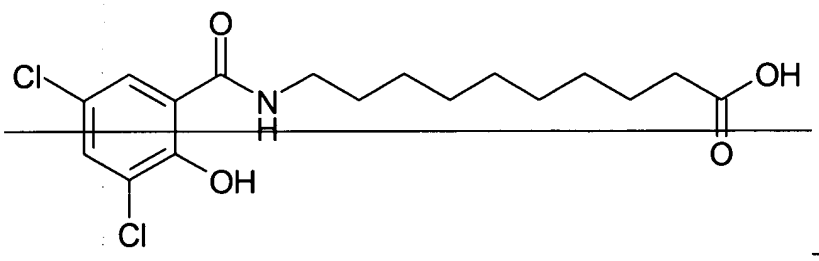

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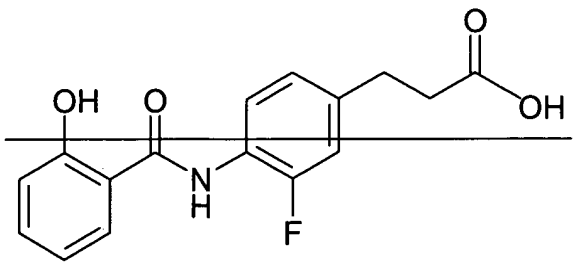

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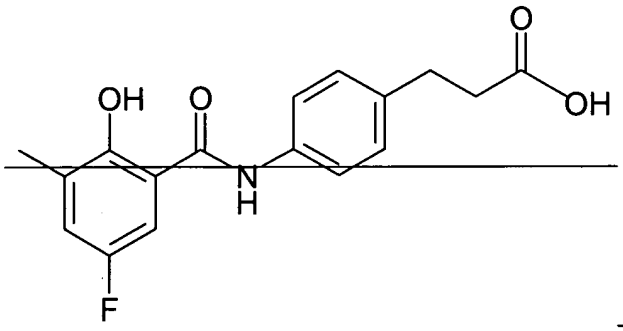

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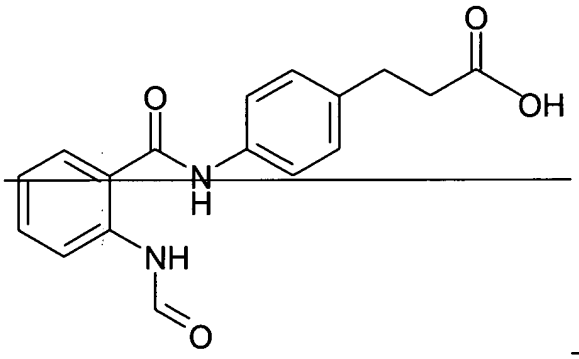

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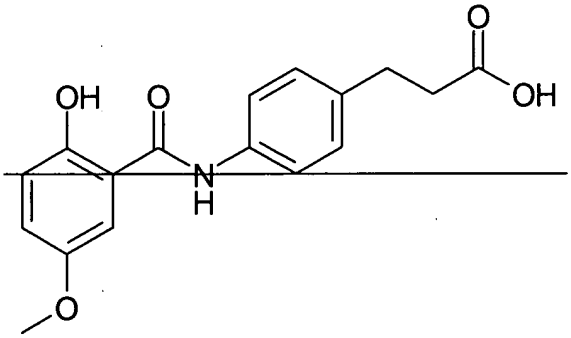

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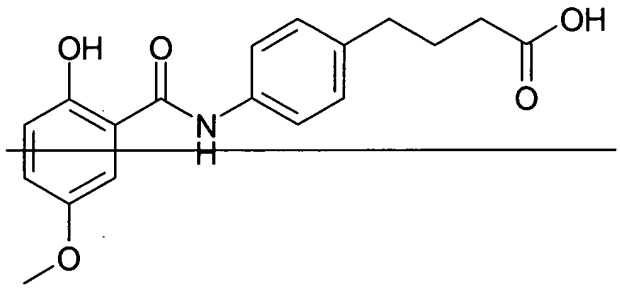

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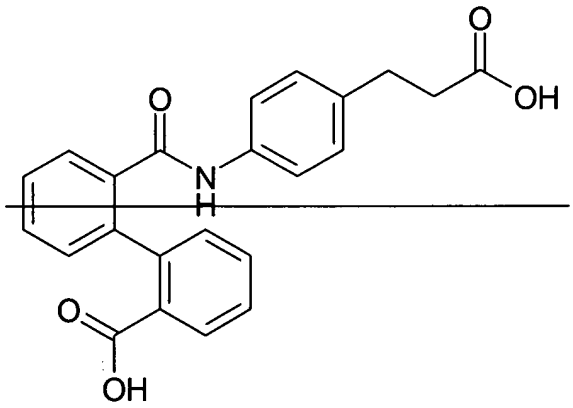

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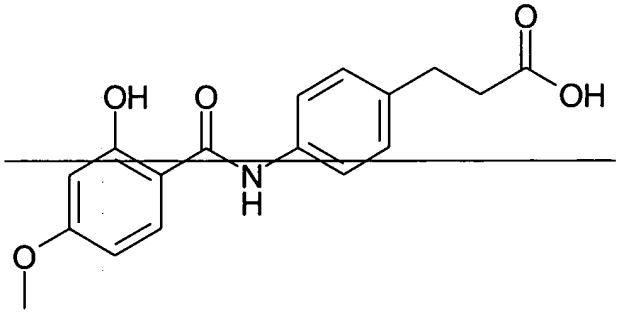

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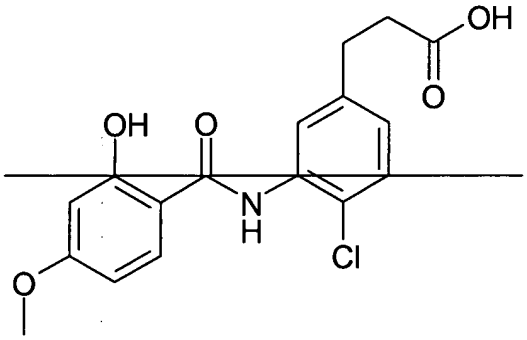

~~(12)~~

~~and salts~~ or a salt thereof.

2. (Currently Amended) A composition comprising:

(A) an active agent; and

(B) the compound of claim 1~~, and mixtures thereof~~.

3. (Original) The composition of claim 2, wherein the active agent is selected from the group consisting of a biologically active agent, a chemically active agent, and a combination thereof.

4. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 3, wherein the biologically active agent comprises at least one protein, polypeptide, peptide, ~~hormome~~ hormone, polysaccharide, mucopolysaccharide, carbohydrate, or lipid.

5. (Original) The composition of claim 3, wherein the biologically active agent is selected from the group consisting of: growth hormones, human growth hormones recombinant human growth hormones (rhGH), bovine growth hormones, porcine growth hormones, growth hormone releasing hormones, growth hormone releasing factor, interferons, α-interferon, β-interferon, γ-interferon, interleukin-1, interleukin-2, insulin, porcine insulin, bovine insulin, human insulin, human recombinant insulin, insulin-like growth factor (IGF), IGF-1, heparin, unfractionated heparin, heparinoids, dermatans, chondroitins, low molecular weight heparin, very low molecular weight heparin, ultra low molecular weight heparin, calcitonin, salmon calcitonin, eel calcitonin, human calcitonin; erythropoietin (EPO), atrial naturetic factor, antigens, monoclonal antibodies, somatostatin, protease inhibitors, adrenocorticotropin, gonadotropin releasing hormone, oxytocin, leutinizing-hormone-releasing-hormone, follicle stimulating hormone, glucocerebrosidase, thrombopoeitin, filgrastim. postaglandins, cyclosporin, vasopressin, cromolym sodium, sodium chromoglycate, disodium chromoglycate, vancomycin, desferrioxamine (DFO), parathyroid hormone (PTH), fragments of PTH, antimicrobials, anti-fungal agents, vitamins; analogs, fragments, mimetics and polyethylene glycol (PEG)-modified derivatives of these compounds; and any combination thereof.

6. (Original) The composition of claim 3, wherein the biologically active agent comprises insulin, heparin, calcitonin, parathyroid hormone, erythropoietin, growth hormones or combinations thereof.

7. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 3, wherein the biologically active agent comprises a recombinant human growth ~~hormones~~ hormone.

8. (Original) The composition of claim 3, wherein the biologically active agent comprises parathyroid hormone.

9. (Original) The composition of claim 3, wherein the biologically active agent comprises insulin.

10. (Original) The composition of claim 3, wherein the biologically active agent comprises heparin.

11. (Original) The composition of claim 3, wherein the biologically active agent comprises calcitonin.

12. (Original) The composition of claim 3, wherein the biologically active agent comprises interferon.

13. (Currently Amended) A composition comprising:

(A) an active agent; and

(B) a poly(amino acid) comprising a compound ~~having a formula selected from the group consisting of the compounds~~ of claim 1, ~~salts~~ a salt thereof ~~and mixtures~~ or a mixture thereof.

14. (Original) The composition of claim 13 wherein the poly (amino acid) is a polypeptide.

15. (Currently Amended) A dosage unit form comprising:

(A) the composition of claim 2; and

(B) (a) an excipient,

(b) a ~~dilutent~~ diluent,

(c) a disintegrant,

(d) a lubricant,

(e) a plasticizer,

(f) a colorant,

(g) a dosing vehicle, or

(h) any combination thereof.

16. (Original) The dosage unit form of claim 15, wherein the active agent is selected from the group consisting of a biologically active agent, a chemically active agent, and a combination thereof.

17. (Original) The dosage unit form of claim 16, wherein the biologically active agent comprises at least one protein, polypeptide, peptide, hormone, polysaccharide, mucopolysaccharide, carbohydrate, or lipid.

18. (Original) The dosage unit form of claim 16, wherein the biologically active agent is selected from the group consisting of:
growth hormones, human growth hormones (hGH), recombinant human growth hormones (rhGH), bovine growth hormones, porcine growth hormones, growth hormone releasing hormones, growth hormone releasing factor, interferons, α-interferon, β-interferon, γ-interferon, interleukin-1, interleukin-2, insulin, porcine insulin, bovine insulin, human insulin, human recombinant insulin, insulin-like growth factor, insulin-like growth factor-1, heparin, unfractionated heparin, heparinoids, dermatans, chondroitins, low molecular weight heparin, very low molecular weight heparin, ultra low molecular weight heparin, calcitonin, salmon calcitonin, eel calcitonin, human calcitonin; erythropoietin, atrial naturetic factor, antigens, monoclonal antibodies, somatostatin, protease inhibitors, adrenocorticotropin, gonadotropin releasing hormone, oxytocin, leutinizing-hormone-

releasing-hormone, follicle stimulating hormone, glucocerebrosidase, thrombopoeitin, filgrastim. postaglandins, cyclosporin, vasopressin, cromolym sodium, sodium chromoglycate, disodium chromoglycate, vancomycin, desferrioxamine, parathyroid hormone, fragments of PTH, antimicrobials, anti-fungal agents, vitamins; analogs, fragments, mimetics and polyethylene glycol-modified derivatives of these compounds; and any combination thereof.

19. (Original) The dosage unit form of claim 16, wherein the biologically active agent comprises insulin, heparin, calcitonin, parathyroid hormone, erythropoietin, human growth hormones or combinations thereof.

20. (Original) The dosage unit form of claim 15, wherein the active agent comprises recombinant human growth hormone.

21. (Original) The dosage unit form of claim 15, wherein the active agent comprises parathyroid hormone.

22. (Original) The dosage unit form of claim 15, wherein the active agent comprises insulin.

23. (Original) The dosage unit form of claim 15, wherein the active agent comprises heparin.

24. (Original) The dosage unit form of claim 15, wherein the active agent comprises calcitonin.

25. (Original) The dosage unit form of claim 15, wherein the active agent comprises interferon.

26. (Original) The dosage unit form of claim 15, wherein the dosage unit form comprises a dosing vehicle comprising a tablet, a capsule, a powder, or a liquid.

27. (Currently Amended) The dosage unit form of claim 15, wherein the dosing vehicle is a liquid selected from the group consisting or water, 1,2-propane diol, ethanol, and any combination thereof.

28. (Original) A method for administering a biologically-active agent to an animal in need of the agent, the method comprising administering orally to the animal the composition of claim 3.

29. (Original) A method for preparing a composition comprising mixing:

(A) at least one active agent;

(B) the compound of claim 1; and

(C) optionally, a dosing vehicle.

30. (New) The composition of claim 4, wherein the biologically active agent comprises a peptide.

31. (New) The dosage unit form of claim 17, wherein the biologically active agent comprises a peptide.